

FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA OCTOBER 1-15 PART I

10/01/09

US ECONOMY

VO: 19

The U.S. economy will be growing again by year end, but tight credit conditions for consumers and businesses will hamper the recovery, the International Monetary fund said as it raised its forecast for growth next year to 1.5 percent from 0.8 percent. The IMF also issued a warning about U.S. government finances, saying government debt "could become unsustainable" unless measures are taken to restrain deficits, and that President Obama and Congress should make sure health-care reform does not make deficits worse.

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10/2/09

FLU VACCINE

VO: 29

The largest U.S. supplier of seasonal flu vaccines says it's running behind on shipping vaccine for the regular, seasonal flu partly because of the crunch to produce millions of doses of the swine flu vaccine. The pharmaceutical company Sanofi Pasteur says it has shipped more than half of the 50 million doses of seasonal flu vaccine order by U.S. health care providers. But the French company has sent notices to customers indicating that additional doses may be delayed. Company spokeswoman Donna Cary says it could be November before some customers get the rest of their orders.

US ECONOMY JOBLESS RATES

VO: 26

The unemployment rate rose to 9.8 percent in September as employers cut more jobs than expected, evidence that the longest recession since the 1930s is still inflicting widespread pain. The Labor Department says the nation's economy lost a net total of 263,000 jobs last month, up from a downwardly revised total of 201,000 in August.

10/5/09

OBAMA HEALTHCARE

VO: 24

President Barack Obama is rallying doctors at the White House today as his bid for a health care overhaul enters a key phase.

The president is convinced doctors are the best advocates for reform, since they're direct witness to how broken and cruel the current system is. An aide says doctors know best that inaction is not an option. And Obama is hoping for key action this week, approval by the Senate Finance Committee of its overhaul bill.

MELTDOWN BANKS

VO: 27

A new report contends the credibility of the government's \$700 billion financial rescue program was damaged by claims a year ago that all of the initial banks receiving support were healthy. Special Inspector General Neil Barofsky generally finds the government acted properly in October 2008 as it scrambled to implement the Troubled Asset Relief Program to avert the collapse of the U.S. financial system.

MELTDOWN NURSING HOME CUTS

VO: 36

The nation's nursing homes are perilously close to laying off workers, cutting services -- possibly even closing -- because of a perfect storm wallop from the recession and deep federal and state government spending cuts. Industry experts say a new Medicare rate adjustment will cut about \$16 billion from nursing homes over the next 10 years. That comes atop state-level cuts that already had the nation's 16,000 nursing homes reeling. Congress may also slash billions more in Medicare funds in the name of health care reform.

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10/06/09

IMMIGRATRION DETENTION REFORMS

VO: 22

Former hotels, nursing homes and other sites could be used to hold immigrants who are not criminals or violent. According to documents obtained by The Associated Press, it's part of a larger plan to reform immigration detention proposed by the homeland security secretary.

HEATING COSTS

VO: 26

People who heat with natural gas may have a little extra money to burn this winter. The government says the winter heating bill should be about \$105 less than it was last winter. Households that use fuel oil, electric heat or propane will also be paying less than last year. It's partly because of lower fuel costs, and partly because of an expected milder winter.

HEALTHCARE OVERHAUL

VO: 16

The last congressional panel working on health care reform will have to wait a little longer before it's done. The Senate Finance Committee was supposed to meet today to vote on the \$900 billion overhaul package that it debated for two weeks. But it's still waiting for a final cost analysis from the Congressional Budget Office so the expectation now is that vote will take place tomorrow.

VACCINES FOR H1N1

VO: 20

The World Health Organisation (WHO) restated its confidence in the H1N1 flu vaccine on Tuesday, calling it the most important tool against the pandemic. Mild adverse side effects such as muscle cramps or headache are to be expected in some cases, but everyone who has access to the vaccine should be inoculated, it said.

U.S. SCHOOLS DO A LITTLE BETTER TRIMMING JUNK FOOD

VO: 26

U.S. schools are doing a little better to limit the amount of junk food students can buy in vending machines or elsewhere, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on Monday. The CDC's survey of middle- and high-school principals in 40 U.S. states found that the number of schools limiting carbonated soft drinks was a median of 63 percent in 2008. That compared to 38 percent in 2006.

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10/07/09

DETENTION CENTER

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:12

The United States, criticized for holding illegal immigrants in overcrowded and poorly run jails, Tuesday announced plans to convert hotels to detain some noncriminal immigrants. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said illegal immigrants ranging from criminals to newly arrived asylum seekers would be held in different facilities according to the risk they pose. Referring to noncriminals such as newly arrived asylum seekers, Napolitano said, "We will begin efforts to house these populations near immigration service providers and pursue different options like converted hotels or residential facilities for their detention."

HEALTH CARE REFORM

VO: 27

The Senate Finance Committee could receive some numbers it has been waiting for today. The Congressional Budget Office could let committee Chairman Max Baucus know how much the health care reform package that his committee hammered out will cost. Numerous changes will likely bring the cost to around \$900 billion over ten years. Congressional tax experts say the proposed legislation would require health care industries to pay \$121 billion in taxes over ten years -- about \$29 billion more than originally thought. Finance Committee Republicans have been arguing the measure contains too many new taxes.

POLL HEALTH CARE

VO: 27

A new poll suggests public opinion on health care legislation is now an even split and a solid gain for Democrats after September results showed 49 percent opposed. The latest Associated Press-GfK poll has found that the opposition to Obama's health care remake dropped dramatically in just a matter of weeks. Still, Americans remain divided over the complex legislation. The poll finds the public is now split 40-40. In September, only 34 percent of those polled supported the effort. Anger about health care boiled over during August town hall meetings.

AIRLINES SURCHARGE

VO: 22

Flying around the holidays is already more expensive and could get more so. Several big airlines have added \$10 surcharges for busy days around the holidays. Last month airlines added a \$10 each-way surcharge for Nov. 29 (the Sunday after Thanksgiving) and Jan. 2 and 3. Now, FareCompare.com CEO Rick Seaney notes that the same airlines have added 10 more days: Nov. 30; Dec. 19, 26, and 27; March 14, 20, 21, 28; April 11; and May 28. He said the surcharges have been added by Delta Air Lines and Northwest, American Airlines, United Airlines, Continental Airlines and US Airways. Seaney said discounters such as Southwest and JetBlue appear to be avoiding the surcharges.

GAY MARIAGE

VO: 29

Even opponents say a gay marriage bill introduced in the nation's capital today seems nearly certain to pass. But the question is: if the measure passes the District of Columbia city council, will it still become law in the District of Columbia? That's because Congress gets to review all D.C. legislation before it takes effect. But, in July, D.C. began recognizing same-sex marriages performed elsewhere. Congress had its chance to act on that legislation, but didn't. If the new bill becomes law, D.C. will follow Massachusetts, Connecticut, Iowa and Vermont in issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples. New Hampshire starts issuing them in January.

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10/08/09

BUDGET DEFICIT

VO: 30

Congressional analysts say the federal budget deficit tripled to a record \$1.4 trillion for the 2009 fiscal year that ended last week. The unprecedented flood of red ink flows from several factors, including a big drop in tax revenues due to the recession, \$245 billion in emergency spending on the Wall Street bailout and the takeover of mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Then there is almost \$200 billion in costs from President Barack Obama's economic stimulus bill. The previous record deficit was \$459 billion and was set just last year. Obama has attributed the nation's dismal fiscal situation to the financial and economic crises he inherited.

SENATE HEALTH BILL \$829 BILLION

VO :21

Health care legislation drafted by a key Senate committee would expand coverage to 94 percent of all eligible Americans at a 10-year cost of \$829 billion, congressional budget experts said Wednesday, a preliminary estimate trumpeted by the White House and likely to power the measure past a major hurdle within days. The Congressional Budget Office added that the legislation would reduce federal deficits by \$81 billion over a decade and probably lead to "continued reductions in federal" red ink in the years beyond.

SICK DAY H1N1

VO: 26

With a vaccine for the H1N1 virus still some time away, the lack of paid sick leave for almost half of all working Americans in the private sector is a potential public health crisis. Not only are these working adults likely to show up at work with potential infectious symptoms - or fear losing their job - they are likely to send sick kids to school for the same reason. Nationwide, the same trend holds: The proportions of workers without paid leave are higher in lower-wage industries, including food service, nursing care, and retail workers.

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10/09/09

GIVING GARDASIL TO BOYS NOT COST EFFECTIVE

VO: 17

Vaccinating boys against the virus that causes cervical cancer and genital warts does not appear to be cost-effective, U.S. researchers said on Thursday.

Assuming all girls get the shot, adding boys to a national vaccination program may not be worth the expense, they said.

10/12/09

HEALTHCARE OVERHAUL

VO: 24

After working for months behind the scenes to help shape health care reform, the insurance industry is now sharply attacking the emerging plan with a report that maintains Senate legislation would increase the cost of a typical policy by hundreds, or even thousands, of dollars a year.

SUMMERS ON ECONOMY

VO: 29

U.S. President Barack Obama's top economic adviser said Monday the United States is on the path toward economic recovery, conditions in financial markets are steadier and there have been initial signs of stabilization in the housing market. "Thanks largely to the Recovery Act, alongside an aggressive financial stabilization plan and a program to keep responsible homeowners in their homes, we have walked a substantial distance back from the economic abyss and are on the path toward economic recovery," Larry Summers said in a letter to be sent to Republican House Leader John Boehner that amounted to a defense of the Democratic Obama administration's policies on the economy.

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10/13/09

STIMULUS JOBS

VO: 32

State officials say President Barack Obama's \$787 billion stimulus plan has spared tens of thousands of teachers from losing their jobs.

The national data won't be available until later this month. But based on preliminary information obtained by The Associated Press from a handful of states, teachers appear to have benefited most from early spending. That's because the stimulus sent billions of dollars to help stabilize state budgets, sparing what officials say would have teacher layoffs.

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10/14/09

US ECONOMY SURVEY

VO: 30

The worst U.S. recession since the Great Depression has ended, but weak household spending as the labor market struggles to create jobs will slow the pace of the economy's recovery, according to a survey released Monday. The survey of 44 professional forecasters released by the National Association for Business Economics, also known as the NABE, found that 80 percent of the respondents believed the economy was growing again after four straight quarters of declines.

MANDATORY FLU VACCINATION

VO: 19

Tuesday that the state health commissioner withdraw a new regulation requiring hundreds of thousands of health care workers to get both seasonal and swine flu vaccinations In testimony before several State Assembly committees in Lower Manhattan, Donna Lieberman , executive director of the civil liberties union, said that the requirement violated the constitutional right of health care workers to control their bodies and their medical treatment.

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10/15/09

SMOKING BANS REDUCE HEART ATTACKS: STUDY

VO: 25

Bans on public places really do work at reducing heart attacks from secondhand smoke, a major study finds. Smoke-free policies can reduce the risk of heart attack by up to 47 percent and significantly reduce the likelihood of other heart problems, according to a report released Thursday by the U.S. Institute of Medicine (IOM). The report also found compelling evidence that even a brief exposure to secondhand smoke can trigger a heart attack.

10/17/-10/18 ((NO SHOW))

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10/19/09

NEW MEDICAL MARIJUANA POLICY ISSUED

VO :30

The Obama administration will not seek to arrest medical marijuana users and suppliers as long as they closely conform to state laws. The Justice Department is set to issue new policy guidelines on medical marijuana Monday. Two

department officials described the new policy to The Associated Press, saying federal prosecutors will be told it is not a good use of their time to arrest people who use or provide medical marijuana in compliance with state laws. The new policy is a significant departure from the Bush administration, which insisted it would continue to enforce federal anti-pot laws regardless of state codes. Fourteen states allow some use of marijuana for medical purposes.

WHITE HOUSE SAYS STIMULUS SAVING EDUCATION JOBS

VO :21

The Obama administration said on Monday its economic stimulus had saved or created 250,000 education jobs, as it sought to push back against Republicans who contend the package was wasteful and had not worked. Faced with pressure to act to help spur job growth with the U.S. unemployment rate at 9.8 percent, President Barack Obama is considering new steps to help the economy, on top of the \$787 billion stimulus package passed earlier this year.

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10/20/09

MORTGAGE HELP

VO :21

Home buyers, as well as renters, could benefit from a program being unveiled today by the Obama administration. Officials say the goal is to provide hundreds of thousands of affordable mortgages for working families, and to allow the development or rehabilitation of tens of thousands of affordable rental properties. The program will operate under a law passed last year to bolster the housing industry. It will feature two parts, a new bond purchase program to support new lending by housing finance agencies and a temporary credit and liquidity program to improve access by housing agencies to credit sources for their existing bonds.

HEALTHCARE POLL

VO :27

A new poll suggests more and more Americans are worried about losing their current health care coverage. As the health care debate nears the floor of the Senate, the poll from the nonpartisan Robert Wood Johnson Foundation finds conflicting views on whether an overhaul will help, make things worse or do nothing. About one-third of respondents say they're worried about losing current coverage in the next 12 months. That's a slight increase from 29 percent in August. The share who say they're worried has gone up by 11 percentage points since spring. Forty percent of young adults surveyed say they're concerned, but even 29 percent of seniors say they're worried, despite having taxpayer-subsidized coverage through Medicare.

STUDY: STATES CAN'T AFFORD DEATH PENALTY

VO :21

Death penalty costs can average \$10M more per year per state than life terms
Eleven state legislatures have considered repealing the death penalty this year
Study relied on U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics data from 33 large urban counties.

RECALL BABY FOOD**VO :19**

There's a national baby food recall. Plum Organics is recalling some of its apple and carrot portable pouch baby food because of concerns over possible botulism contamination. The product was sold individually throughout the country at Toys-R-Us and Babies-R-Us stores. The California-based company says the product did not meet the FDA guidelines for proper acidity level, leaving it vulnerable to botulism contamination. Botulism is a serious and sometimes life-threatening condition. Consumers should not use these products, even if they appear to be normal, because of the possible health risk. No illnesses have been reported in connection with the baby food, and the company says no other Plum Organics products are affected.

AIDS VACCINE**VO :26**

Scientists say further analysis of tests on an experimental AIDS vaccine offer disappointment and cause for optimism. The latest results confirm that it is only marginally effective and suggest that its protection against HIV infection may wane over time. But scientists say one exciting part is that the vaccine does seem to have some effect, the first time that's happened. Scientists also think blood samples from the trial may show how to make a vaccine that does a better job. The results also hint that the vaccine may work better in the general population than in those at higher risk of infection. The test was done using thousands of HIV-negative men and women in Thailand ages 18 to 30 at average risk of becoming infected.

SWINE FLU-NURSES**VO :31**

A nurses' union is threatening a one-day strike at 34 hospitals across California, accusing them of poor swine flu preparedness. California Nurses Association spokesman Chuck Idelson says up to 16,000 registered nurses will strike on Oct. 30 if federal swineflu recommendations aren't written into their contracts. Idelson said Monday that nurses have complained about poor access to protective masks since a Sacramento nurse died in July after contracting swine flu. Catholic Healthcare West runs 28 of the hospitals expected to be affected by the strike. Hospital chain spokeswoman Jill Dryer says contract negotiations have been under way since March and include a commitment to provide safe working environments for nurses.

FLU HOSPITAL VISITORS

VO :24

Hospitals around the country are turning away visiting children and tightening restrictions on adults, too, in hopes of limiting the spread of swine flu in the hallways. Utah and Colorado are recommending visitor limits for hospitals statewide. But mostly it's a hospital-by-hospital decision. Some hospitals are trying education instead of rules, posting signs that urge people of any age to postpone that visit if they have a sniffle or cough. But there's little science the limits work. Consequently, neither the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention nor the American Hospital Association have set guidelines on the issue.

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10/21/09

US AUTO BAILOUT

VO: 33

U.S. stocks rose Wednesday, boosted by progress on a bailout of the U.S. auto industry, even as opposition to the plan from several Senate Republicans shaved earlier gains. "It appears that there's some sort of a snag," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Avalon Partners. "But the market knows that [the bailout] is going to happen in one shape or another." A jump in the price of oil also helped lift energy shares, providing support for the overall market, thanks to "President-elect Obama's plan to boost this economy," Cardillo added.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

VO:23

Fewer states posted an increase in unemployment in September, even as the national rate recently hit a 26-year high of 9.8%. Jobless rates increased in 23 states and the District of Columbia last month, according to a report released Wednesday by the Labor Department. Additionally, 19 states posted a decrease in unemployment, and eight states had rates hold steady in September. That's compared to August, when 27 states and the District of Columbia recorded month-over-month unemployment rate increases.

HEALTH CARE OVERHAUL

VO:21

A key U.S. Senate committee endorsed a sweeping healthcare overhaul on Tuesday, gaining the support of an influential Republican and delivering President Barack Obama a victory on his top domestic priority. The Democratic-controlled Senate Finance Committee approved the measure by 14-9, with Senator Olympia Snowe becoming the first Republican in Congress to back a healthcare reform bill. Snowe, who had been courted by Obama and his fellow Democrats, said she backed the plan with reservations and could not guarantee her continued support as the overhaul advances through Congress. "My vote

today is my vote today. It doesn't forecast what my vote will be tomorrow," Snowe said, warning there was still a long road ahead for healthcare reform.

US GUANTANAMO

VO: 20

The Supreme Court agreed Tuesday to decide whether Guantanamo detainees who are considered no threat can be ordered released in the United States - over the objections of the Obama administration and Congress - if the prisoners have nowhere else to go. The case could further complicate the administration's plans to close the Guantanamo prison where 220 or so men are still held.

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10/22/09

FINANCIAL OVERHAUL(file)

VO: 21

A House committee is expected to approve a bill today creating a new Consumer Financial Protection Agency. The agency would regulate popular financial products like mortgages, credit cards and savings accounts. The vote would be a victory for President Barack Obama, who has made the agency a top priority in his effort to tighten the rules governing Wall Street and prevent another economic crisis.

But there's plenty of fine print that will limit the new agency's reach.

HOMEBUYERS TAX CREDIT (file)

VO: 29

House panel is looking into concerns of fraud among those taking advantage of the first-time homebuyer tax credit. The program has been central to the Obama administration's effort to get the housing market back on track. The Ways and Means subcommittee hearing today comes as Congress considers whether to extend, and possibly expand, a stimulus act provision that allows qualified first-time homebuyers a tax credit

of up to \$8,000. That benefit is scheduled to expire at the end of November.

OBAMA-EXECUTIVE PAY

VO: 22

The Obama administration plans to order companies that received huge government bailouts last year to sharply cut the compensation of their highest paid executives, according to a person familiar with the decision. The seven companies that received the most assistance will have to cut the annual salaries of their 25 highest-paid executive by an average of about 90 percent from last year, said the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because it has not been announced. This person said Wednesday that the Treasury Department will

announce the deep pay cuts within the next few days.

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10/23/09

HEALTHCARE OVERHAUL

VO: 25

Members of the Senate Finance Committee on Wednesday made slow progress on a sweeping health-care overhaul bill, turning aside an amendment that would have further delayed the measure and preparing for bigger, more-contentious amendments to come. Senators narrowly shot down an amendment by Sen. Jim Bunning, R-Ky., that would have made the bill's language public ahead of the vote, as well as the final cost analysis from the Congressional Budget Office. Bunning wanted both to be posted on the committee's Web site for 72 hours before members take a final vote. But Sen. Max Baucus, the Montana Democrat who chairs the panel, is seeking to vote on the bill this week.

GAYS-HATE CRIMES

VO: 24

a vote of 68-29, the U.S. Senate passed a hate crimes bill making violence against gays and lesbians a Federal crime on Thursday. The bill is expected to be signed by President Obama. The passage of the bill is seen as a victory for civil rights groups that have long sought to expand the Federal statute beyond attacks motivated by religion, race, color or national origin. Named in honor of Matthew Shepard, a gay student at the University of Wyoming who was beaten to death in 1998, and for James Byrd Jr., an African American in Texas who was chained to a pickup and dragged to death the same year, the bill was attached to a \$680-billion Pentagon measure.

GAY MARRIAGE-CENSUS

VO: 25

The U.S. Census Bureau is making an unprecedented effort to include same-sex couples in next year's national population count, but legally married gay couples won't show up as such in the official once-a-decade tally, bureau representatives said Thursday. Statistical problems related to the development of the 2010 census form and the evolving legal state of same-sex relationships led Census officials to conclude that trying to include married gay couples in the overall snapshot of household marital status could yield an inaccurate number, said Gary Gates, a University of California, Los Angeles demographer who has been advising the bureau on gay issues.

AMBULANCES OBESE PATIENTS

VO: 18

The memory still bothers Ken Keller: A panicked ambulance crew had a critically ill patient, but the man weighed more than 1,000 pounds and could not fit inside the vehicle. And the stretcher wasn't sturdy enough to hold him. The crew offered an idea to Keller, who was then an investigator with the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services. Could they use a forklift to load the man - bed and all - onto a flatbed truck? Keller agreed: There was no other choice. "I'm sure it was terribly embarrassing to be in his own bed, riding on the back of a flatbed with straps tying him down, going to the hospital, and then have a forklift at the hospital unload him," Keller said. As the nation battles the obesity crisis, ambulance crews are trying to improve how they transport extremely heavy patients, who become significantly more difficult to move as they surpass 350 pounds. And caring for such patients is expensive, requiring costly equipment and extra workers, so some ambulance companies have started charging higher fees for especially overweight people.

10/24- 10/25 ((NO SHOW))

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10/26/09

H1N1 NOW NATIONAL EMERGENCY

VO :30

President Barack Obama has declared 2009 H1N1 swine flu a national emergency, the White House said. The declaration will make it easier for U.S. medical facilities to handle a surge in flu patients by allowing the waiver of some requirements of Medicare, Medicaid and other federal health insurance programs as needed, the White House said in a statement.

HOTEL OWNER TELLS HISPANIC WORKERS TO CHANGE NAMES

O/C :26

In New Mexico, ex-employees of a hotel of the Taos city protest against the owner of the business to which they describe as racist, because he prevents them from speaking in Spanish in front of him. The demonstrators also complained that the proprietor of the hotel asked Latin employees to change their names to English. The peculiar thing is that the Hispanic measures of the industrialist do not have capacity in a city where Spanish has one long history in the city.

VITAMIN D KIDS

VO :30

A recent analysis suggests at least one in five U.S. children aged 1 to 11 don't get enough vitamin D and the main author says the number is between 80 and 90 percent for minority kids. A vitamin D deficiency could put kids at risk for a variety of health problems including weak bones. Dr. Jonathan Mansbach calls the statistics for black and Hispanic children "astounding numbers" that should serve as a call to action. He's a researcher at Harvard Medical School and

Children's Hospital in Boston. Vitamin D deficiency in children, teens and adults is a concern because of recent studies suggesting the vitamin might help prevent serious diseases, including infections, diabetes and even some cancers. Exactly how much vitamin D children and adults should get, and defining when they are deficient, is still under debate.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

VO :28

Senate Democrats are trying again this week to extend unemployment benefits. Democrats are pushing a bill that would extend expiring benefits for 14 weeks in all states and an extra six weeks in states where unemployment is above 8 1/2 percent. Unhappy with how Democrats' planned to pay for the extended benefits, Republicans refused to let the benefits extension move ahead via unanimous consent. Democrats now indicate they're now open to Republican amendments. One to be offered would extend the tax credit for first time homebuyers, which is set to expire next month.

HEALTHCARE SYSTEM WASTES UP TO \$800 BILLION A YEAR

VO :27

The U.S. healthcare system is just as wasteful as President Barack Obama says it is, and proposed reforms could be paid for by fixing some of the most obvious inefficiencies, preventing mistakes and fighting fraud, according to a Thomson Reuters report released. The U.S. healthcare system wastes between \$505 billion and \$850 billion every year, the report from Robert Kelley, vice president of healthcare analytics at Thomson Reuters, found.

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10/27/09

US IMMIGRATION WORKERS

VO :26

Workplace immigration raids during the Bush administration interfered with ongoing labor investigations and allowed employers to exploit workers who complained about conditions on the job, labor groups said in a report released. The stepped-up immigration enforcement came at the expense of rigorous enforcement of labor protections that are guaranteed to all workers regardless of immigration status, the groups said.

RECESSION OVER

VO :22

Economic numbers coming out in the next week or so are expected to make it technically official the recession is over, but not the pain. This week, the government will be releasing figures expected to show the Gross Domestic Product growing at an annual rate of around 3 percent. But next week, the

government issues another set of numbers expected to show unemployment rising toward and possibly passing a clearly recessionary 10 percent. Such seemingly contradictory assertions raise questions about economic scorekeeping. For his part, economist James K. Galbraith says any real return to prosperity could be years away, when unemployment gets back around 4 percent.

SLOWER DEVELOPMENT ON HISPANIC CHILDREN

VO :20

A study reveals that the slow understanding of language and reasoning is higher on hispanic children of two or three years old, in comparison with the white minors of the same age. The experts attribute this slow development to low levels of maternal education, lack of educative practice at home and to the numerous things that a family can be.

ADVANCE PAYMENT PLANS FOR UNIVERSITIES MORE EXPENSIVE

VO :32

Advance payment plans for state universities increased price this year in florida, up to four times in some cases. The advance payment plan been pleased plan to cover in its totality the matriculation that receives the universities, raised of " four thousands 600" dollars for new born the last year, to near " veinte" thousand dollars this year. and that besides the basic quota of the state universities, that also is going to increase. the increases must that the legislature him this retiring the state endorsement to the universities.

POLICE HEADS PRO THE REFORMATION IMMIGRATION

VO :25

More that 50 heads and police bailiffs of great cities and small towns has been united to civil and communitarian the coalition of organization that promote the migratory reformation. They have added organizations of black and latin police that conform the call "Initiative of participation of agencies of" law. Many of these agents reject the controversial programs well-known like 287g, that allows the local police to exert migratory functions like arrests of undocumented people.

CAMPAIGN TARGETS MORTGAGE MODIFICATION SCAMS

VO :26

A national housing nonprofit has launched an education campaign in Southern California to combat scams targeting homeowners in peril of foreclosure. Loan modification fraud is on the rise, costing troubled homeowners thousands of dollars up front for mediation and counseling services that are provided free by federally approved nonprofits.

AIRLINES CHARGE

VO :19

Some airlines charge \$25 just to check a bag. Southwest just started a sale where \$25 will get you from point A to Point B on certain routes. Dallas-based

Southwest today announced one-way travel as low as \$25, for travel up to 375 miles. The price is \$50 for travel between 375 and 549 miles, and \$75 for flights between 550 and 999 miles.

STUDENTS E-COLI

VO :19

Massachusetts health officials say a meat company is voluntarily recalling beef products after more than 20 school children and adults from Rhode Island were sickened by E. coli. Department of Public Health spokeswoman Jennifer Manley said that South Shore Meat Company of Brockton is recalling ground beef and other products after tests showed the presence of E. coli in leftover samples. Those sickened include two sixth-graders, who were hospitalized after consuming contaminated meat during a field trip earlier this month. Massachusetts officials say tests showed the ground beef collected at the camp is the same strain of E. coli confirmed in two of the children. E. coli can cause serious illness in young children, the elderly or those with compromised immune systems.

DODD CALLS FOR INTERIM FREEZE ON CREDIT CARD FEES AND RATES

VO :29

Senator Christopher J. Dodd, Democrat of Connecticut, on Monday proposed freezing interest rates and fees on existing credit balances until a new law took effect. Senator Dodd, the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, said his bill was necessary because banks were raising rates "to squeeze customers" before the remaining provisions of law took effect in February. The new credit card law, which was passed in May, seeks to stop banks from arbitrarily raising interest rates. Last week, the House Financial Services Committee passed legislation to move up the effective date for the credit card law, which will restrict interest rate increases and hidden fees, from Feb. 22 to Dec. 1. The measure is opposed by the banking industry, which says it will be difficult if not impossible to meet the expedited deadline.

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10/28/09

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

VO: 19

Legislation to extend unemployment benefits for out-of-work Americans has cleared a procedural hurdle in the Senate. Senate Democrats, saying that 7,000 people a day are exhausting their benefits, called on their colleagues to move quickly to a final vote. Republicans insisted they get a chance to offer amendments.

SF BOARD CHANGES TACK ON IMMIGRANT MINORS

VO: 17

The Board of Supervisors gave final approval Tuesday to a measure that would keep law enforcement from turning over minors to immigration authorities unless they have been found guilty of a felony. The move pits the panel against Mayor Gavin Newsom and law enforcement by reversing his policy of turning over youths to Immigration and Customs Enforcement after their arrest. Newsom took the stance in 2008 after the city was accused of protecting young offenders such as Edwin Ramos from deportation. Ramos, an undocumented immigrant from El Salvador, was charged with felonies as a minor, but the sanctuary policy allowed the suspected gang member to stay in the U.S.

OBAMA TO SIGN DEFENSE BILL, HATE CRIME LEGISLATION

VO: 22

President Barack Obama is signing a big defense spending bill today that includes a hefty pay raise for the troops. The military pay increase of 3.4 percent exceeds inflation and is a half-percent more than even the president asked for. Lawmakers had their way on a number of spending items, though Obama did prevail in his fight to end production on the Cold War-era F-22 fighter.

GMAC ANOTHER BAILOUT

VO: 24

A Treasury Department spokesman confirms GMAC Financial Services is in talks with the Treasury Department for a third injection of taxpayer aid. The auto lender faces a November deadline to raise an \$11.5 billion cushion mandated by results of the government's "stress test" earlier this year.

PSYCHIATRIC DRUGS-KIDS

VO: 18

A worrisome effect is emerging for children on widely used psychiatric drugs -- major weight gain and obesity. A new study says many kids pack on nearly 20 pounds and become obese within just 11 weeks of taking such drugs. Dr. Christopher Varley, a psychiatrist with Seattle Children's Hospital, says occasionally, "you can actually see them grow between appointments." He says the study results are "sobering."

INSULIN SYRINGE RECALL

VO: 20

An Alabama company is recalling about 250 million Accusure insulin syringes it has distributed nationwide since January 2002. Huntsville-based Qualitest Pharmaceuticals says it's received about four complaints related to the needle detaching from the syringe, but no reports of injuries.

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10/29/09

HEALTHCARE OVERHAUL

VO: 30

After months of contentious negotiating, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi prepared to unveil a retooled health care overhaul plan intended to bridge differences among Democrats and open a history-making floor debate on extending health insurance to nearly all Americans.

IMMIGRATION ID CARDS

VO: 26

Ten New Haven residents filed a lawsuit Wednesday accusing federal agents of violating their rights during an immigration raid they say was in retaliation for a city program that provided ID cards to foreigners in the country illegally -- the first of its kind in the nation. The sweeps in New Haven on June 6, 2007, came two days after the city approved issuing identification cards to all of its residents, regardless of immigration status. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials have denied that the early morning raids were retaliatory, saying planning began the year before.

OBAMA STIMULUS JOBS

VO: 25

A review of jobs created or saved by President Barack Obama's economic recovery plan shows some of the numbers are overstated.

The administration says recovery money has helped pay for more than 30,000 jobs. But The Associated Press found that a company in Colorado that said it created more than 4,300 had actually produced fewer than 1,000. A firm in Ohio that reported 54 jobs created only six.

SWINE FLU VACCINE/ US TO GET 30MLN DOSES

VO:20

Swiss drug-maker Novartis AG says it will deliver about 30 million doses of swine flu vaccine to the United States by the end of November.

The company says in a statement Thursday that it already has shipped more than 7.5 million doses of pandemic vaccine to America and is on target with commitments made to the U.S. Novartis and other major swine flu vaccine producers have been hit by production delays.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT WARNS OF SWINE FLU PARTIES

VO:28

The Centers for Disease Control warns on its website about the new trend. Officials said some people are intentionally coming in contact with an infected person, in the hopes of getting a mild form of the virus. The thought is they will develop an immunity that could protect them if the strain becomes more severe.

They said these parties are not a good idea. "There is no way to predict what the outcome will be for an individual or, equally important, for others to whom the intentionally infected person may spread the virus," the website states.

DIABETES CAN BE DELAYED WITH DIET, EXERCISE (FILE)

VO:24

People on the brink of developing diabetes who get a lot of support and encouragement to diet and exercise can turn things around and avoid the disease, U.S. researchers said on Wednesday. "Millions of people could delay diabetes for years and possibly prevent the disease altogether if they lost a modest amount of weight through diet and increased physical activity," said Dr. Griffin Rodgers, director of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease.

SEX, ALCOHOL, FAT AMONG WORLD'S BIG KILLERS: WHO

VO: 24

Tackling just five health factors could prevent millions of premature deaths and increase global life expectancy by almost 5 years, the United Nations World Health Organization (WHO) said Tuesday. Poor childhood nutrition, unsafe sex, alcohol, bad sanitation and hygiene, and high blood pressure are to blame for around a quarter of the 60 million premature deaths around the world each year, the WHO said in a report.

NO LINK SEEN BETWEEN COFFEE AND HEART FAILURE (file)

VO:23

Contrary to findings from an earlier study, new research suggests that coffee lovers do not face an increased risk of heart failure. Researchers found that among more than 37,000 middle-aged and older Swedish men, those who regularly drank coffee were no more likely to develop heart failure than those who infrequently, if ever, drank the beverage.

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10/30/09

OBAMA PREVIEW - RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS BILL

VO :19

President Barack Obama is set to sign an extension of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS bill. The legislation currently provides care, treatment and support services to nearly half a million people, most of whom are low-income. Later Friday, the president meets in the White House Situation Room with the Joint Chiefs of Staff to discuss Afghanistan and Pakistan. Vice President Joe Biden is expected to attend, along with all the major players except Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, who's on a foreign trip.

CENSUS COLLEGE STUDENTS

VO :28

Some are there because of the recession, and others despite it. Regardless, more young Americans than ever are in college especially community college, according to a new report. A record high of about 11.5 million Americans age 18 to 24, or nearly 40 percent, attended college in October 2008, according to a study of Census data released Thursday by the Pew Research Center. Virtually all the increase of 300,000 students over the previous year came at two-year schools, while attendance at four-year schools remained flat.

CDC VACCINE ADVISORY

VO :26

CDC offers an update ON how the process of distribution of vaccines against the influenza h1 n1 goes. 16 thousand nurses of three chains of catholic hospitals of California and Nevada, today realise a day of labor unemployment and protests, by the lack of preparation of many medical centers to confront the pandemic of influenza h1 n1.

OVERDRAFT CHARGES HEARING

VO :15

A bipartisan legislative effort to reform credit card interchange fees and consumer credit card concerns (overdraft fees, interest rate hikes, curtailed lines of credit) is making headway in Congress, Politico.com reports. The tug-of-war is in response to the credit card rules that President Obama signed into law in May, and House Democrats are more determined than ever to accelerate their implementation date, according to the Capitol Hill news source.

H1N1: 6 MILLION CASES

VO :25

IHealth officials think that as many as 5.7 million Americans were infected with swine flu during the first few months of the pandemic. Scientists at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that between 1.8 million and 5.7 million Americans were infected from April through July. The estimate is the CDC's most specific calculation to date. Officials had simply been saying millions have been infected. The estimate is in an article in a CDC publication called Emerging Infectious Diseases.

STATIN DRUGS MAY LOWER DEATHS FROM FLU

VO :22

Patients taking statin drugs were almost 50 percent less likely to die from flu, researchers reported on Thursday in a study providing more evidence the cholesterol-lowering drugs help the body cope with infection. The findings are compelling enough to justify doing controlled studies in which some patients are

given the drugs deliberately and some are not, said Meredith Vandermeer of the Oregon Public Health Division, who helped lead the study.

WHEN MOMS GET FLU SHOT, BABIES BENEFIT TOO

VO :17

When pregnant women get vaccinated against flu, their babies are bigger, healthier and less likely to be premature, researchers reported on Thursday. The studies show that influenza vaccines protect not only women, who are extremely vulnerable to flu when pregnant, but also their babies before and after birth, the researchers said. When moms get flu shot, babies benefit too.

CANCER ICE CREAM

VO :17

Scientists of New Zealand are developing an ice cream that is so good for the health that could prescribe by the doctor. The frozen delight, called "recharge", use active ingredients of milky products to alleviate diarrhoea, anemia and the lack of appetite in people with cancer who are put under chemotherapy.

10/31 ((NO SHOW))

=====END OF REPORT=====